

The background of the entire page is a photograph of three US Navy ships, likely fleet ocean surveillance ships, sailing in formation on a blue sea under a clear sky. The ship in the foreground is the largest and most detailed, showing its complex superstructure with various radar masts, antennas, and satellite domes. Two other similar ships are visible in the background, one to the left and one further back in the center.

Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force

Strategic Plan 2000

A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION FORCE

During FY-2000 we initiated several new ways of doing business, and we worked hard to fix several problem areas. As a result we realized a Navy-wide 69% OPEVAL success rate which was accomplished without any loss of independence or objectivity on our part. The decisions that equate to this success rate did not come easily and are reflective of the professional evaluations made by this command.

I see additional challenges ahead for us. These include realization and incorporation of our Mission Information System or network; the impact on our work load by early involvement in programs and our expansion into software analysis of our warfare programs by our new 80 division. These challenges are great, but I am confident the professionalism each member of our command displays will bring success to the forefront.

As a result of our strategy planning sessions I wanted every member to consider our mission, vision and guiding principles and to carefully access this strategic plan. During the coming year, we will place renewed emphasis on improving how we gather data, study it and publish our finding to the fleet. We will serve our customer throughout the fleet with better communications, more useful information and improved tools, fostering a climate that encompasses innovation.

We will enrich the quality of our efforts here at the Operational Test and Evaluation Force.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R.E. Besal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

R. E. BESAL

MISSION STATEMENT

COMOPTEVFOR is the Navy's sole independent agent for operational test and evaluation, adding discipline to the Navy's acquisition process. For new or improved capabilities proposed for fleet use we will:

Conduct operational test and evaluation in a realistic environment against the anticipated threat

Advise the Chief of Naval Operations on operational effectiveness and operational suitability and make recommendations for fleet introduction

Develop and evaluate tactics and procedures

Assist and support developing agencies



COMOPTEVFOR GOALS FOR SUCCESS

Remain at the forefront in DOD operational testing

Add value and discipline throughout the Navy acquisition process

Set programs up for success (vice being and end-of-process QA check)

Refuse to let independence become a barrier to free and open communications with program managers and other Navy acquisition stakeholders

Practice independence from a position of membership on the Navy acquisition team

Continuously improve what we do, achieving high quality at the least cost

Know who our customers are, both internal and external, and pay close attention to their needs

Satisfy our customers by giving them more than they expect

VISION STATEMENT

COMOPTEVFOR will be at the leading edge of operational testing, not only of traditional hardware, but also of rapidly – expanding software-intensive systems.

COMOPTEVFOR personnel will be well trained in all aspects of operational testing, to include software and the software development process.

COMOPTEVFOR will be at the forefront of intelligent incorporation of modeling and simulation into operational testing.

While always remaining objective, COMOPTEVFOR will work closely with developers, becoming involved early to ensure the high quality of systems going to the fleet, and indirectly helping set systems up for success in operational testing.

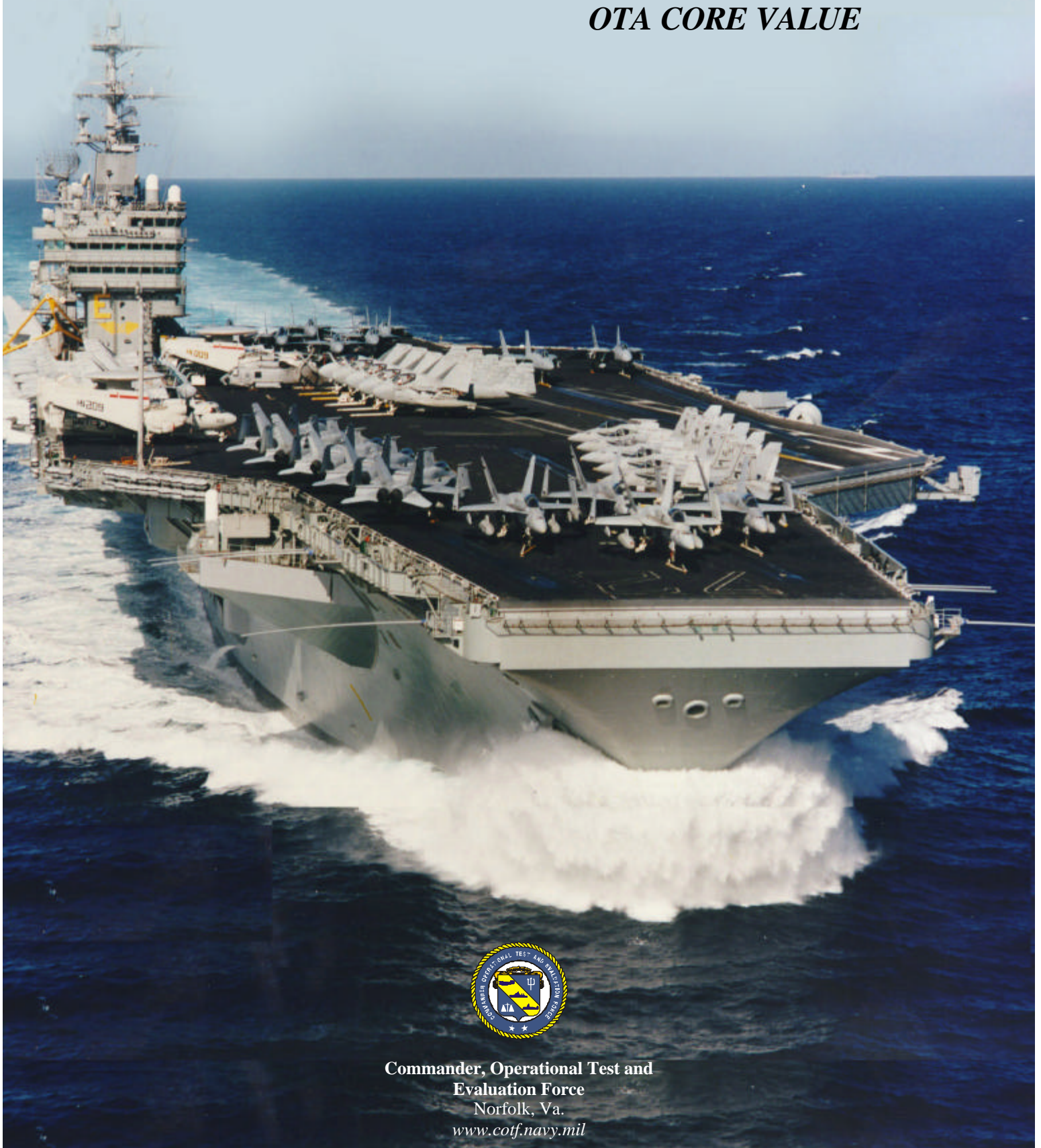
THE COMMON GOAL

To expeditiously provide good weapons systems to our fleet warfighters.



“Our ultimate customer is the soldier, sailor, or airman....our sons and daughters... who will judge our efforts with their lives and their mission accomplishment. This is a sacred trust which will not be compromised.”

OTA CORE VALUE



**Commander, Operational Test and
Evaluation Force**
Norfolk, Va.
www.cotf.navy.mil